

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising:

a housing including a first housing base wall and a second housing base wall connected to said first housing base wall and spaced therefrom, said first housing base wall having an inner side and an outer, opposite side, said second housing base wall having an inner side and an outer, opposite side, said inner side of said first housing base wall facing said inner side of said second housing base wall, a plurality of ribs extending from said housing first and second housing base walls and spaced apart from each other such that a slot is defined between adjacent ribs, each said rib includes including a first rib portion ~~and a second rib portion extending from each said housing base wall, each said first rib portion~~ extending from said respective first housing base wall in a first direction and a first rib portion extending from second housing base wall in said first direction such that each said slot has a first slot portion which is open to said outer sides of said first and second housing base walls, and a ~~each~~ said second rib portion extending from said respective first housing base wall in a second, opposite direction; and a second rib portion extending from second housing base wall in said second direction such that each said slot has a second slot portion, and

at least one terminal positioned within each said slot and connected to said housing such that a surface area of each said terminal is exposed to the environment and air can flow over said surface area to dissipate heat from each said ~~at least one~~ terminal.

2. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of each said terminals terminal~~ is positioned within a respective first slot portion and second slot portion.

3. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 1, wherein each said terminal includes a terminal base wall, a first terminal portion extending from said terminal base wall and a second terminal portion extending from said terminal base wall in the same direction,

said first and second terminal portions being positioned within ~~a respective said~~ first slot portion of a respective slot, ~~respective ones of~~ said terminal base ~~walls~~ wall being positioned within a ~~respective~~ said second slot portion of a respective slot.

5 4. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 3, wherein said housing further includes a housing central wall provided between said first and second housing base walls such that a first aperture is provided between said housing central wall and said first housing base wall and a second aperture is provided between said housing central wall and second housing base wall, said first terminal portion being positioned within a respective first aperture and said
10 second terminal portion being positioned within a respective second aperture.

15 5. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 4, wherein each said terminal further includes means for connecting said terminal to an associated printed circuit board, said second terminal means portion extending beyond ends of said second rib portions.

6. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 4, wherein each ~~said~~ terminal further includes means for connecting said terminal to said housing.

20 7. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 4, wherein each ~~said~~ terminal further includes an enlarged head on said first terminal portion and an enlarged head on said second terminal portion.

25 8. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 4, wherein said first aperture is wider than a width of said first terminal portion such that air can flow through said aperture, and wherein said second aperture is wider than a width of said second terminal portion such that air can flow through said aperture.

9. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 8, wherein two terminals are provided between respective pairs adjacent ribs and said first aperture is wider than a width of said two terminals such that air can flow through said aperture, and wherein said second aperture is wider than a width of said two terminals such that air can flow through said aperture.

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10. (Currently Amended) A connector as defined in claim 1, wherein said housing includes a central wall and said first housing base wall and said second housing base wall are connected to said housing central wall, said first housing base wall, said housing central wall and said second housing base wall being spaced apart from each other such that a first aperture is provided between said housing central wall and said first housing base wall and a second aperture is provided between said housing central wall and second housing base wall, ~~said at least one each~~ terminal being positioned within said apertures such that an additional surface area of each ~~said~~ terminal is exposed to the environment and air can flow over said surface area to dissipate heat from ~~said at least one each~~ terminal.

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11. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 10, wherein two terminals are provided between adjacent ribs.

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12. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 10, wherein each ~~said~~ terminal includes a terminal base wall, a first terminal portion extending from said terminal base wall and a second terminal portion extending from said terminal base wall in the same direction, said first terminal portion being positioned within said first aperture and a respective slot, said second terminal portion being positioned within said second aperture and a respective slot, said terminal base walls being positioned within a respective slot.

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13. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 12, wherein said first aperture is wider than a width of said first terminal portion such that air can flow through said aperture, and wherein said second aperture is wider than a width of said second terminal portion such that air

can flow through said aperture.

14. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 12, wherein two terminals are provided between adjacent ribs.

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15. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 1, wherein two terminals are provided between adjacent ribs.

16. (Original) A connector as defined in claim 15, wherein said two terminals provided between adjacent ribs have the same polarity.

17. (Currently Amended) A connector capable of being mounted on a circuit substrate, the connector comprising:

a housing including a first housing base wall and a second housing base wall connected to said first housing wall and spaced therefrom, said first housing base wall having an inner side and an outer, opposite side, said second housing base wall having an inner side and an outer, opposite side, said inner side of said first housing base wall facing said inner side of said second housing base wall, a plurality of ribs extending from said each said housing base wall and spaced apart from each other such that a slot is defined between adjacent ribs, each said rib includes a first rib portion extending from each said housing base wall, each said first rib portion extending from said respective housing base wall in a first direction such that each said slot has a first slot portion which is open to the outer side of said respective housing base wall; and

25 at least one terminal positioned within each said slot and connected to said housing such that a surface area of each said terminal is exposed to the environment and air can flow over said surface area to dissipate heat from said at least one each terminal.

18. (Previously Presented) A connector as defined in claim 17, wherein the first direction is a direction away from the circuit substrate.

19. (New) A connector as defined in claim 1, wherein said second slot portion is open to said outer sides of said first and second housing base walls.

20. (New) A connector comprising:

5 a housing including a first housing base wall and a second housing base wall connected to said first housing wall and spaced therefrom, said first housing base wall having an inner side, an outer, opposite side, a top side and a bottom side, said second housing base wall having an inner side, an outer, opposite side, a top side and a bottom side, said inner side of said first housing base wall facing said inner side of said second housing base wall, a plurality of first top 10 rib portions extending from said top wall of said first housing base wall and spaced apart from each other such that a first top slot is defined between adjacent first top rib portions, said first top slot being open to the outer side of said first housing base wall, a plurality of second top rib portions extending from said top wall of said second housing base wall and spaced apart from each other such that a second top slot is defined between adjacent second top rib portions, said 15 second top slot being open to the outer side of said second housing base wall; and
a terminal positioned within each slot and connected to said housing.

21. (New) A connector as defined in claim 20, wherein said terminal positioned within each slot and connected to said housing is defined by a terminal which extends into both 20 slots.

22. (New) A connector as defined in claim 20, further including a plurality of first bottom rib portions extending from said bottom wall of said first housing base wall and spaced apart from each other such that a first bottom slot is defined between adjacent first bottom rib portions, said first bottom slot being open to the outer side of said first housing base wall, a plurality of second bottom rib portions extending from said bottom wall of said second housing base wall and spaced apart from each other such that a second bottom slot is defined between adjacent second bottom rib portions, said second bottom slot being open to the outer side of said

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second housing base wall.